

Department Description

Columbus City Council is the legislative authority and chief policy-making arm of city government, empowered by the City Charter to exercise control over city expenditures. Council's primary responsibilities include enacting and amending the Columbus City Code, reviewing and adopting the annual operating and capital budgets, and authorizing certain contracts. In addition to its fiscal control and regulatory authority, City Council establishes land use policy through its zoning powers.

In 2024, City Council will transition from a seven-member at-large system to a nine-member hybrid district system. Council members must reside within the district they represent, while residents will vote on the Council representatives for all nine districts.

The Council works closely with the executive branch of city government to form policies impacting public safety, finance, economic development, and the delivery of core city services. City Council also initiates and facilitates ongoing cooperative efforts with other government entities, the business community, and other institutions to improve the overall high quality of life for Columbus residents.

Legislative aides, legislative assistants, the Legislative Research Office, and the Office of Community Engagement provide City Council members with information and guidance on public policy decisions impacting public safety, budgetary, economic development, and community matters.

Council appoints the City Clerk, who maintains the journal of City Council activity, codifying city ordinances per established guidelines. Council also appoints the City Treasurer, whose duties include the investment of all city funds.

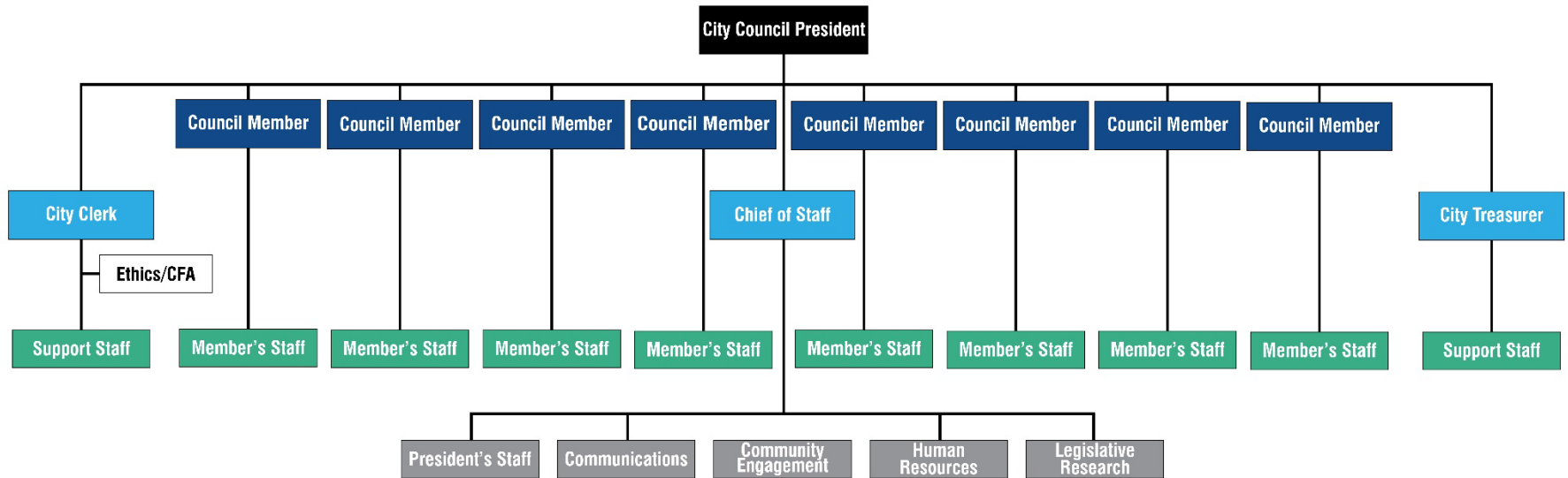
Department Mission

To provide high-quality service to the residents of Columbus, ensuring accountable, transparent, and accessible operations. City Council's overarching goal is to develop policy and appropriate funds to support the welfare of Columbus residents.

Budget Summary

Fund	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Actual	Actual	Budget	Proposed
General Fund	4,994,511	5,753,848	6,076,086	7,061,941
Department Total	\$ 4,994,511	\$ 5,753,848	\$ 6,076,086	\$ 7,061,941

City Council



2024 BUDGET NOTES

The budget will fund 54 full-time employees, which includes the current staff complement of 46 employees, as well as 2 additional City Council members, their 4 support staff, and 2 legislative analysts. Council will continue the internship program's growth with funding to support year-round interns in Council offices. The services budget maintains contracts at their current levels, accounting for increases due to rising costs.

Financial Summary by Area of Expense						
	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Projected	2024 Proposed	
City Council						
General Fund						
Personnel	\$ 4,613,845	\$ 4,851,677	\$ 5,656,378	\$ 5,638,837	\$ 6,588,861	
Materials & Supplies	16,937	17,976	65,000	64,632	49,000	
Services	360,729	881,194	351,708	394,769	421,080	
Other	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	
City Council Subtotal	4,994,511	5,753,848	6,076,086	6,101,238	7,061,941	
Department Total	\$ 4,994,511	\$ 5,753,848	\$ 6,076,086	\$ 6,101,238	\$ 7,061,941	

Department Personnel Summary								
Fund	2021 Actual		2022 Actual		2023 Budget		2024 Proposed	
	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT
General Fund								
City Council	42	0	43	0	46	0	54	1
Total	42	0	43	0	46	0	54	1

Operating Budget by Program				
Program	2023 Budget	2023 FTEs	2024 Proposed	2024 FTEs
Administration	\$ 6,060,378	46	\$ 7,043,370	54
Internal Services	15,708	0	18,571	0
Department Total	\$ 6,076,086	46	\$ 7,061,941	54



2024 PROGRAM GUIDE

ADMINISTRATION

To approve all appropriations and laws for Columbus, and to provide a public forum for the discussion of issues by the citizenry.

INTERNAL SERVICES

To account for the internal service charges of the department necessary to maintain operations.